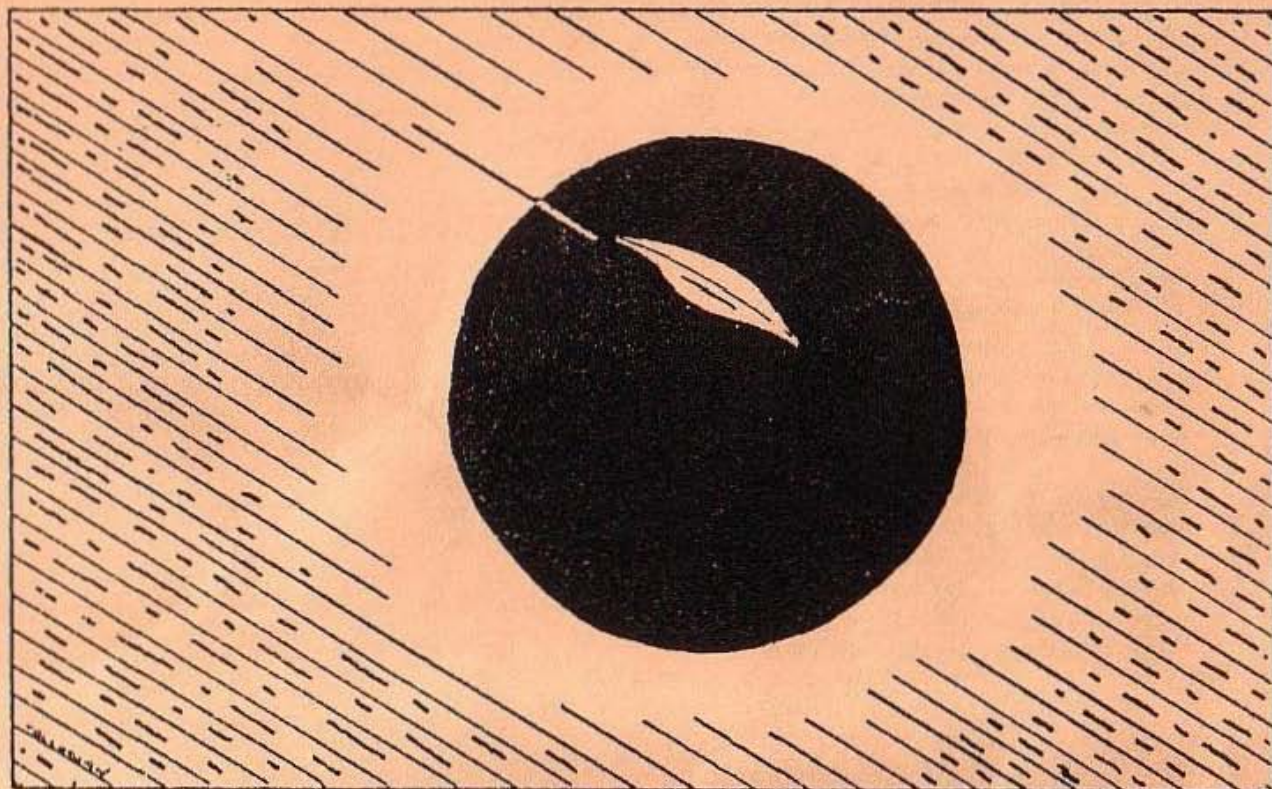


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APOLOGY:

As you can see this issue has been seriously delayed once again. I think that I owe readers a more detailed explanation.

Many of you knew that my parents (whom I have looked after for some years now) have long been disabled. Last year - when it was clear that my father's many illnesses - which had left him wheelchair bound since I was a small child - had extended to throat cancer, I bought a bungalow on the coast to make life easier for him and because it was his wish to live by the sea. That gave him much pleasure as his health deteriorated throughout this past year, but as we were now cut off from my only other family it restricted my free time.

My father faced seemingly endless surgery at Christie's Hospital in Manchester but finally was defeated by his struggles against so much pain, passing peacefully after yet another operation in late July.

I hope you can appreciate that this has meant that UFO matters took a back seat during the summer and this magazine as a result slipped ever further behind.

I know that I have said this before, but I do now hope that things will improve in future. All I can do is repeat my promise that NUN will continue - with perhaps less of a gap between issues from now on - and you will receive all the issues that you have paid for, on subscription

BUFORA conference sells out...

The recent BUFORA conference in Sheffield (19/20 August) was financially a huge success - a sell out, in fact. It was also controversial for many reasons - notably the debut of the Roswell footage (see page 5).

However, its unique aspects brought other comment from UFOlogists - especially regarding some of the marketing decisions - prompting important questions about the direction that UFO research may be headed.

Most readers are aware of my problems with BUFORA during the past 2 years. I was unceremoniously pushed out after years on council and as Director of Investigations, following behind the scenes activity more at home in a Dallas script.

Less well known is that at the council meeting when Philip Mantle launched his move to expell me from office a reason that he cited was that I did TV interviews that he felt he should have done instead.

I sat dumbstruck listening to this comment, particularly as it was inferred that I was *persuading* TV stations to work with me instead of with others. Two examples were a local - north-west only - show in which the UFO Call number was given out on screen and a Granada networked show in which I had already appeared a time or two before.

I was bemused by these charges, for which I was shown no evidence. My puzzlement was enhanced by the fact that both programmes were made by my local TV station (so it was no shock they came to me).

I have written and recorded UFO Call from day one six years ago and one programme was about this, so it hardly seemed odd they wanted me on camera. Presumably, BUFORA (who make thousands of pounds a year from the line - although I am not paid a fee, save occasional costs against my phone bill) gained much via this free TV advert, so criticising me for it seemed strange.

In the other show (This Morning) I had to fight tooth and nail to get access to the hundreds of calls regarding UFOs that came in afterwards and operated Granadas phones in my own time in exchange for some cases sent in. BUFORA benefited further from this.

I requested BUFORA chairman Steve Gamble to independently check this daft idea about my TV presence by calling the producers of the shows to see why I was interviewed. To my knowledge he did not do so - when he could have easily established the truth first hand. You may ask BUFORA why.

Frankly, this was so frustrating. BUFORA seemed to have no valid reason for concern, but if they wanted their press officer (as Philip Mantle then was) to make more public appearances instead of me the only reason I saw was to market the association more vigorously. It seemed that they wanted to focus all key work - the BUFORA office, investigation and PR, via Philip Mantle's address. I rather stood in the way.

Okay, fair enough, I decided. BUFORA's new marketing direction was not my cup of tea, but it is a democratic body. I had to accept the majority verdict of council.

Yet, in 1969 I had joined a group which cared less about attracting truckloads of members and making money but more about investigation and research. To me this set BUFORA apart. If it was to become just another group - like some in the USA - which only consider themselves to be a success if they have more members than any potential rival, then this to me was a retrograde step.

In UFOlogy you measure achievement by what you contribute to serious debate and scientific progress - not by how many new members you recruit or how much money you can bank to pay for an office or an ever more glossy mag. At least in my idealistic UFO world you do. Times were changing and leaving an old fuddy duddy like me behind.

I sensed here the beginning of a UFOlogical revolution - the commercialisation of the field. Something I recall Dr J Allen Hynck warning me about just before he died.

Allen was invited to make lots of money by appearing in a commercial for beer on American TV. I think the idea was that he would say something like - 'For 40 years I have investigated aliens and I have learned one thing - they all drink *Rhipemhoff lager*'. Despite the fact that the money would have no doubt funded the Center for UFO Studies till the cows come home (presumably mutilated by aliens) he chose not to exploit the field in this way. He had my huge respect for that; although I appreciate there is another point of view.

Anyhow, I decided not to fight the new mood on council taking BUFORA in such a PR orientated direction and did not stand independently for election at the April 1994 AGM, as I had been urged by others to do.

These seemingly political words are necessary in explanation for a quote of mine which has appeared in several newspapers this summer (most of which were paraphrasing from the original quote in 'The Independent' in early July). Several UFOlogists have asked me to justify what I am reported to have said.

In fact, I was slightly misquoted in that first article. It appeared in print as me saying that I had left BUFORA council because of my disenchantment with their public promotion of the Roswell footage. This, of course, was not strictly true as I left BUFORA office a year before that film had even surfaced over here.

What I did say, in fact, was that I left because of my disenchantment with the direction BUFORA was taking - as exemplified by their recent public association with the Roswell footage. Subtly - but significantly - different.

The previous commentary helps explain why - whilst it was Philip Mantle's move to force me off council that triggered my departure - there were undercurrents which contributed to my decision not to fight.

In my view the BUFORA members should have the final say. A council is elected to serve them - not the other way around.

In fact I rejected an offer from senior BUFORA personnel - that I continue to attend all meetings (without a vote) and be some sort of figurehead for the group. This would be a non elected, life time position. Tempting to my ego as such an honour was - it opposes my view that nobody in the BUFORA hierarchy should be above the membership and thus have a post not directly accountable to all who join. In my view the members should vote officers in - and out - not have anyone thrust upon them permanently. It would have been very hypocritical to accept this tempting deal.

Which brings us around to 1995 and the Sheffield conference, which took BUFORA further down this new road than ever before.

For a start it was sponsored by a rock music company to promote their new CD 'War of the Worlds'. The whole idea of sponsorship taking over things has, in my view, wrecked sports like football and the image of it ruling UFOlogy in future disturbs me no end.

It may seem - indeed possibly even was - innocent enough in form at Sheffield. But it was a precedent that takes us closer to that day when UFOlogy exists primarily to make money (and usually for someone else).

At Sheffield, in exchange for a fat cheque, BUFORA adorned its programmes and proceedings with pictures of martian death rays, tripod machines and other artifacts linked with the hugely enjoyable Jeff Wayne concept album - now digitally remastered.

Okay, I guess, so far. But then you have singer Jeff Wayne giving a lecture and you start to wonder has the line been crossed? When you see the huge blow-up record covers promoting this CD which all the conference speakers had to combat on stage (and which will no doubt appear on videos of the lectures as well) then you realise to what extent the hard sell was at work.

Then there was the unforgivable way that BUFORA stalwart Robin Lindsey was treated. Robin - despite major physical impediments - has been a loyal BUFORA servant since before my time (and that starts 26 years ago). He has made audio and video tapes of lectures and all conferences at great personal effort and no profit, simply as a service to members who are unable to travel.

Robin turned up at Sheffield ready to film, as at all previous events, to discover he had been 'replaced' by a commercial video outfit BUFORA had brought in. So Robin was banned from doing his job, - and, shamefully, nobody had even bothered to warn - let alone ask - him. He was left rightly sad and angry.

Of course all this came alongside the decision to hype the Roswell footage.

Now the story of the Roswell footage is probably the UFO event of the decade (hence its domination of this issue of NUN - after which, I hope, we will have to say very little else about it and can get back to real UFOlogy)... *hands up those who said hurrah!*

In so far as BUFORA is concerned here is their argument.

In March 1995 Philip Mantle first saw the footage and invited the rock video owner (Ray Santilli) to screen it at Sheffield. Santilli got a platform and the invaluable implicit support of a top UFO group. BUFORA got a sure fire ticket seller for the conference. In his 'Dear UFO Disbeliever' letter published by the Independent a few days later Mantle ensured this ace card was played very quickly by suggesting that sceptics may have to eat their words if they came to Sheffield to see the 'Holy Shroud of UFOlogy' and so on. Undeniably pro footage words. Tickets, naturally, sold out rapidly (around 650 in all, I was told; although the media claimed up to 3000!) It became the most successful ever BUFORA conference - almost certainly mainly thanks to this hype of the footage.

According to BUFORA this was not an endorsement of the uninvestigated and (to nearly every other UFOlogist in the world) pretty dubious film - it was an opportunity to let the UFO community judge for themselves.

Nine days later we all had that chance via a Channel 4 TV programme, but this BUFORA argument might just hold water but for that 'Independent' piece in March attributed by name not to a reporter but as being written by Mantle himself. This promoted the film in BUFORAs name.

Moreover, there can be little doubt that the footage was the primary focal point to push the conference. The media stories seemed to discuss little else. Also I noticed that BUFORA were sending out endless order forms for the Santilli video of the footage. I counted five at least which came to me within weeks. BUFORA envelopes became rivals to the Readers Digest for unwanted junk mail as a result of this overkill. If BUFORA were not pushing the film why send so many mailshots?

Then there is the saga of how the film was presented at Sheffield. Ridiculous security precautions saw people cleared out of the lecture theatre into crowded throngs amidst the heatwave whilst security guards searched under their seats for bugs and cameras and then body searched and scanned

the seething crowds with metal detectors on their way back in! They all returned minus cameras and bags - which they had to risk leaving outside in unsecured areas or miss the film that they had pre-paid to see!

I did vox pop interviews for my BBC documentary and it was not hard to find angry delegates who had not expected this half hour long farce at a UFO conference.

Perhaps more importantly, after the press mauling in June/July I called John Spencer and suggested that BUFORAs image was in danger as they were being perceived as proponents of this footage. The BUFORA council had only just seen the film - months after Santilli was invited to show it. I was told that none of BUFORAs senior officers were convinced. Yet this was not coming across to the hundreds invited to attend the conference.

I suggested to John that BUFORA had not asserted itself publicly with any balanced view on this film. He agreed. So I proposed that instead of just letting Santilli show the film they use the conference to stage a proper UFOlogical debate by inviting some of its critics to state their case alongside its supporters then throwing it open to audience discussion. This would at least establish an air of neutrality for BUFORAs position; although it might have run the risk of Santilli pulling out of his agreement to screen the film.

To be fair to John Spencer he supported my idea, as indeed did BUFORA vice chairman Mike Wootten. John also circulated council with the plan.

So what happened? Nothing. A week before the conference I asked if the debate would occur and was informed that it had been vetoed. Philip Mantle, I was told by BUFORAs vice-chairman, was organising the conference and ruled it out. But an hour was found to slot in an extra lecture by Michael Hesseman who pushed BUFORA deeper into the position of seemingly backing this film.

You have the right to wonder if BUFORA - for commercial reasons - neglected their true role here. That surely was to use this hugely visible opportunity to lead the debate and discussion within the UFO community. Days later Mantle reported he was joining in just such a debate - but in Italy.

Perhaps BUFORA have just gone temporarily astray. I hope so and apologise if I infer sinister motives here when none are due. But we must ask if money is beginning to talk louder than sense in UFOlogy. Anyone who cares deeply about Britains premier group - as I do - may fear for their long term credibility.

The Roswell Film *Some facts you need to know*

So much has been written about the infamous Roswell autopsy footage that it is difficult for anyone to judge the truth. Rather than spout my opinions I thought it a better idea to pose a series of key questions and try to answer just what we know (or - quite often - don't know) regarding this perplexing affair.

Who took the film?

An 82 (?) year old man from the USA who is termed JB - but widely known as Jack Barnett. According to Ray Santilli (RS) this is merely 'uncomfortably close' to his real identity - which my sources tell me is Jack Bennett. Three different locations in the USA have been cited by RS or sources working with him. Philip Mantle (PM) had a phone call in June which claimed to be from JB but he gave no details and was not quizzed by PM - who tried to set up a meeting with him in the USA. Channel 4s producer flew to the US and insisted to RS on meeting JB. The cameraman did not show up. They tracked him down and he refused to speak until they produced a letter from President Clinton agreeing that he could! Needless to say Ch 4 did not do so. RS says he has seen proof of the mans career and association with the case but no evidence of this has been made public. JB is supposedly afraid for his family but - surely - if he is telling the truth the powers that be already know who he is and what he has done. So there seems no point in this secrecy. Indeed he would probably be safer in the open where if anything then happened it would damage the government by implication. Frankly, his willingness to sell government property for a vast sum (RS will not say what this was but it is strongly rumoured as \$100,000) does not square with JB's reticence.

Whats his story?

It is not surprising this has been little heard (eg on the Ch 4 programme). JB says he was taken to the desert with a team of military men about a day after the UFO crashed (supposedly in June - not July - 1947). This was nearer Socorro than Roswell, New Mexico - and the debris found by Brazel and the source of all the Roswell stories seems to have been just 'left overs' - not the main craft, which is what JB saw. When they arrived at the site the aliens were still alive (although

JB was told it was an aircraft he was visiting and thought the 'aliens' were 'circus freaks' - indeed to this day he does not believe they were extraterrestrials). Each being clutched a black box and was yelping or wailing. The US servicemen clubbed the aliens over the heads with their rifle butts and tied them up, then dragged them across the desert. It is not clear if this is what killed them or their crash injuries. But at least one was said to have survived months or possibly years! The first filming was done in situ in a tent. This footage was shown by RS to a few early viewers (eg PM and rock star Reg Presley - RP) as was the first autopsy, but it has since been sold by RS to a mysterious millionaire collector who will not allow it to be shown. The autopsy footage everyone has seen was carried out (weeks?) later at a base facility (possibly in Texas). JB was in 1947 a military cameraman who had previously filmed things like the Manhattan Project and other top secret work. He had a small hand held b & w 16mm camera and took hundreds of reels. He also took thousands of stills. All of this was sent back to Washington but he held onto 20 reels which had processing problems and, despite reminding them, the Pentagon seemingly never claimed it back. So JB stuck it in his attic for 46 years. RS met him (in late 1992 or Spring 1993 - dates vary) when in the USA to buy film for a rock video. JB in the 1950's had left the service and took early film of stars like Elvis Presley before they became famous. After buying some Presley footage JB told RS - 'if you think that was good, wait until you see this....' But RS took almost 2 years to get the large sum of money needed to buy the alien footage. A deal with a famous video label to jointly buy the stock fell apart in late 1993/early 1994 and RS seems to have had the support of a German backer named Spielberg (!) In the meantime (from summer 1993 onward) he had checked with various UFO researchers about the Roswell case - the only one of whom that seems to have developed into contact being PM. RS needed to satisfy himself that there was such a case as Roswell. He has been variously quoted as saying he had never heard of it, or that he had heard of it but knew little about it. However, from June 1993 onward he was allegedly talking to PM about producing a UFO video that never got off the ground and he was apparently at the BUFORA preview screening of the movie 'Fire in the Sky' that month. PM told MUFON of the film in July at the Bristol conference and council colleagues (eg myself) circa Oct/Nov 1993.

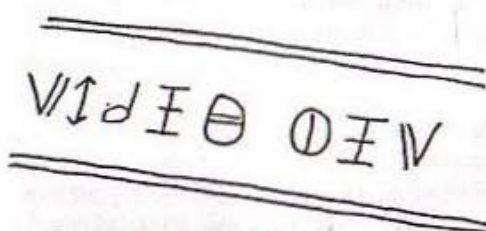
Whats on the footage?

The 'tent sequence is said to be 'poor quality' by PM in his initial report .He adds that the camera remains fixed,the figure is covered by a sheet and the lighting is dim. RP - who was the first person to see any film after RS brought it to the UK (he reports this as between Christmas and New Years Eve 1994) said the footage was so bad he was unimpressed by the dark,fuzzy shots. He adds that RS told him he had better material being processed and made viewable. These included the first autopsy (which is similar to the second but the body in this had no leg damage) and the two sequences that we have all seen - ie the 20 minutes or so of the second autopsy and the few moments of the wreckage laid out on a table. However RP was also told of three other sequences that have never been seen by anyone. These would be far and away the best - viz shots of the complete craft wrecked in the desert,President Truman supposedly on site and the craft being raised by crane into the back of a truck. As to why we have not seen these priceless images we are told by RS that he was overoptimistic about their viewability. Some film has become stuck together. And he is basing some of his comments on what is on unviewable shots via comments written on the reels - presumably by cameraman JB. However,in a nice tease he promises 'Roswell:The sequel' in times to come with news that new techniques may one day allow these presently unwatchable scenes to be made public.

What can we make of what we do have?

The figure in the autopsy shots is humanoid - with eyes,ears,nose and mouth and six digits (fingers and toes).In height it is around 5' or just over. The head is slightly swollen. This is in no way a 'grey' or indeed the child sized four fingered bulging eyed entities of UFO or Roswell lore. RS uses this to defend the footage - saying if it were a recent hoax the tricksters would surely have based it more correctly on UFO legends than this film depicts. Whilst that is a sensible argument it,of course,does not preclude a hoax pre-dating the fairly recent recognition of the 'grey' as a standard alien. Even descriptions of aliens at Roswell (few as they are) all post date the late seventies.If this is an earlier hoax it may have owed more to SF than UFOlogy. The organs taken out are not human,but the shots are so out of focus it is hard to tell.

Overall the impression is of something not alien enough to be regarded as an ET but not human enough to be obviously identifiable as a known genetic mutation. As for the wreckage,this looks like crude cast metal with wires - not the flimsy (yet strong) stuff described by all witnesses at Roswell.It seems to me that a spaceship built out of this *would* crash - by virtue of being so heavy it would fall out of the sky. The hieroglyphics are again unlike those at Roswell - being embossed onto metal,not stained in purple or pink atop the debris. They frankly look like someones attempt to fake Roswell wreckage but who has not read the original accounts very carefully or who felt that those stories do not describe anything quite impressive enough. I told the *Times* that in my view the wreckage would look more at home in 'Steptoe and Son' than 'Close Encounters of the third kind' - and I stand by that. RS says the symbols have been recognised as 'Egyptian' or something similar (1) - presumably a pyramid will soon be found in the desert near Roswell - but it is decidedly curious that one line appears to read 'VIDEO OTV' This is an illusion caused - RS says - by reading one line upside down (although how you tell which is up and down in alien wreckage I am not sure). Certainly it is a bit of a simulacra - but so striking is the impression that I cannot believe it is a coincidence. In my view this was an 'in-joke' by whoever faked the shots of the wreckage. Indeed I am far more certain that the wreckage shots are hoaxed than I am of the alien autopsy. It is worth noting that nobody saw the wreckage shots until shortly before the Sheffield conference. Not even BUFORA were allowed to see them at their private screening by RS which was given to the council in June. I have not yet seen a good explanation for this - but even if there is one it is almost impossible to accept the wreckage as parts of an alien spaceship,let alone the craft described so well by so many as having come down in the desert at Roswell. I should stress that I do not mean to imply here that RS faked these sequences.



A Clue ?

Has the footage been verified?

A crucial factor is whether the footage really does date from 1947. Kodak have seen film and leader tape and affirm its coded symbols indicate a date of 1927, 1947 or 1967 - and - because of the film type - 1947 is the only reasonable option. Bob Shell, working with Kodak in the USA, says he is pretty sure from his tests on original footage that it is not only 1947 stock but was filmed within a year or so of that date due to the film's fast nature. No independent verification has yet been offered but BUFORA received two frames for testing from RS just before the Sheffield conference and Channel 4 were promised some (but it did not turn up in time for the documentary). RS was unwilling to destroy more of the original footage in these chemical tests and was waiting for samples from the sequence he sold to the mysterious millionaire. In many respects these tests are critical. Of course, 1947 film could have been kept in cold conditions and used to shoot images say 20 years later (old film stock litters Hollywood apparently) and it is less easy to prove when the film was taken. But if it is verified as being shot almost 50 years ago the odds of a man-made hoax must plummet - as the quality of the autopsy is so good that such techniques may not have been possible in the forties film industry. On the other hand various special effects experts have been insistent that the footage is a hoax using models. CFX - Creature Effects - from Pinewood Studios - extensively studied the film for Channel 4 and concluded in a report that I have seen (thanks to Quest) that it was good quality work, but they saw evidence of a seam in one arm. Also the absence of scratches and the way the camera moved suggested to them it was not shot on 16mm film 48 years ago but was more recent and made on a lightweight modern camera. Miles Johnstone, Sky TV engineer and long term UFOlogist (indeed one of the earliest recipients of NUN via the then Irish UFO Centre) gave me an on-camera interview for my BBC film immediately after viewing the footage in Sheffield. He was adamant - it was a modern hoax, shot on a lightweight camera, using colour video and then transferred to b & w film. The wreckage sequence was very different, he claims, and was made on 16mm film - possibly some years ago. When I pointed out that one special effects expert had allegedly backed the film for US TV (who bought the 'rights') Miles said bluntly that there were obvious clues to the hoax in

the film and that any TV engineer who studied it and did not spot a fake was either 'lying or an idiot'. Miles' controversial views are, of course, just one opinion, but his comment that the film was directed was endorsed to me by a TV actress who also saw the film at Sheffield. She said that she knew within 2 minutes the autopsy sequence was scripted and acted out.

So what's the truth?

Good question! If it's no alien (and I myself don't think it is) then it's either a model (in which case it's probably 'modern') or a sick film of a deformed human (in 1947 who knows what Nazi scientists in the USA were up to)..

A few days before the TV screening BUFORA, Fortean Times and Ch 4 received three b & w stills showing someone alongside a model of the alien head! A cover slip identified the senders as Morgana Productions (Morgana and Merlin being linked through the Arthurian legends and Merlin being the name of the RS video company!) These packages were sent from a London postmark with no address. John Lundberg - artist and model maker consulted by Channel 4 - compared them at RS's office and told me on 1 September he was sure they were a hoax - but a good attempt to copy the alien head. The fact that b & w film was used and only the head shown were a giveaway. If these were pictures really taken by the actual hoaxers then they could have sent colour shots with a full range of images of autopsy and wreckage - but it would be cheaper just to make the head and by using b & w they enhanced the similarity and minimised the detailed differences.

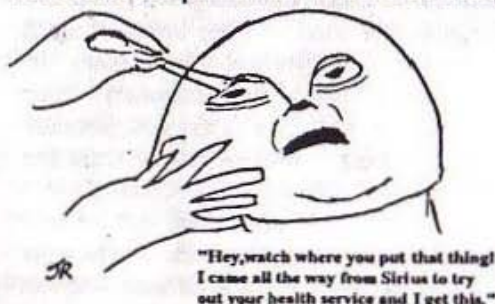
Another 'it's a hoax' story is under investigation and is superficially interesting. As this is a complex tale and its facets are not authenticated I can say no more at this point. All I will say is that I hope to goodness it proves just one more bogus claim (as it very well may do) since the repercussions for UFOlogy would be disturbing.

Let me emphasise that, personally, I think Ray Santilli comes over as a sincere, puzzled guy - not as a hoaxer. A man who simply bought a product in good faith and tried to market it without being too obstructive to research. He seems to me to have got a little out of his depth and begun to sense some of the problems with the film and - whilst still clinging to the hope that it is real - rather strikes me as beginning to accept the inevitable - that tests must now be done to establish the truth one way or the other.

Roswell: What the papers said

Daily Sport (27 Mar) Philip Mantle of BUFORA said, 'We have already had the film checked out by Kodak who confirm it is 50 years old. If this is a hoax a lot of people were involved and by now we would have expected one of them to have let the cat out of the bag.'

The Independent (29 Mar) 'Dear UFO disbeliever...the time is fast approaching for me to say 'I told you so' and for you to eat your words...The implications of this film are far reaching...it is the best proof we have yet obtained that an alien spacecraft did crash that summer in 1947' (from a letter printed promoting the Sheffield conference by Philip Mantle - who says it was edited; although as of early July the paper confirmed they had received no complaint from him or BUFORA)



The Sun (28 July) 'We've investigated the film - its a fake and we intend to prove it.' (Graham Birdsall, Quest)....'The world will never be quite the same after it has been screened.' (Philip Mantle, BUFORA)

Sheffield Star (18 August) 'This film is a fake - no doubt about it...there is no possibility it could have been filmed in 1947.' (Cliff Wallace, Creature Effects, Pinewood Studios) 'Its a clever fake' (Dr Chris Stringer, Natural History Museum) 'The whole story is implausible from beginning to end and no serious researcher in the world of UFOlogy is backing the film as genuine. It is quite well done and sophisticated but there is no evidence to prove it was made in 1947 and what it shows contradicts everything we know about the case.' (Jenny Randles) 'Experts who examined the film have concluded there was nothing in it that could not be reproduced using contemporary special effects.' (Graham Birdsall, Quest) 'I saw nothing to indicate this footage came from the Roswell incident or any other UFO incident for that matter.' (Stanton Friedman, noted Roswell investigator) 'At no point have we promoted the film as genuine or fake. Most of

the critics who are carping have not seen the film in its entirety so dont know what they are talking about.' (Philip Mantle, BUFORA)

Telegraph, Sheffield (18 August) 'I profoundly disagree with BUFORAs approach to the film footage and the decision to present it to the people of Sheffield without it being investigated. I think it should be fully validated before it is shown.' (Jenny Randles)

News of the World (20 August) 'I've studied the film in detail and I cannot find fault with it.' (Philip Mantle, BUFORA) 'It does not match the evidence as we know it.' (Jenny Randles) 'I believe it is genuine but I cannot guarantee it' (Ray Santilli)

The Times (21 August) 'If it turns out to be a latex dummy it could set UFOlogy back 50 years.' (Malcolm Robinson, SPI)

Daily Mail (21 August) 'Only an audience which wanted to believe that the film was genuine would even have bothered to stay until the end. But most of the delegates were determined to be deluded. They ought to have worn T-shirts emblazoned with the motto Glad to be gullible....outside the hall were stalls from which devotees could buy all sorts of UFO junk at exorbitant prices....there is a fortune to be made out of space. Let us hope that nobody makes one out of the Roswell footage. It is far too silly to be taken seriously and ought to be laughed all the way back to America.' (Senior politician, Roy Hattersley)

From my reply to the above faxed the same day... 'Mr Hattersley's completely unjustified assumption - based on a few minutes stay at the conference and no apparent reading of the intense UFOlogical controversy during the past six months - is unfair to those many sensible UFOlogists who have done incredible work to unravel detailed problems with this film....I doubt the UFO community worldwide will forgive the conference organisers for the criticism they have heaped upon an easily discredited subject...'

TV Quick Magazine (26 Aug) 'A record like this would never be overlooked by the intelligence (community)...' (Peter Brookesmith, sceptical UFOlogist) 'I am convinced this film is real...This footage gives us a new perspective, a new vision of who we really are - not British or American, but earthlings' (Michael Hesemann, UFOlogist)

Santilli Speaks

Two interesting interviews with Ray Santilli appeared in sources that you may not have seen and they were very illuminating.

First, Perry Petrakis faxed me a copy of the interview which he conducted in Cannes, France on 8 April 1995. The gist (with quotes) was as follows:-

RS heard about the film in Cleveland, Ohio '18 months ago' via a cameraman who was with Universal News in 1954 and then filmed 'Elvis' live - but prior to 1952 he had been with the Army Air Force. He had lived in the same Cleveland house for 50 years and was so patriotic he only sold the film when forced by poverty to do so.

As for the footage 'It is very convincing' RS says. *'It is very clear and all details can be seen in all aspects of the recovery and the autopsy.'* (in which case why have we never seen these clear shots of the recovery - JR?)

RS adds that they believe the alien is female and *'some of the main organs seem to have been enhanced with electronic type devices....almost like a pacemaker'* (I can see the headlines now if it is ever proven to be a Nazi genetic experiment -er, maybe - Gerry and the pacemaker - JR?)

RS discusses the recording of sound during the autopsy and says someone did do this but they don't have the tapes. He adds - enigmatically; *"I am sure in time when people analyse the film and they attempt to lip read whats going on - or whatever - in fact you cant lip read because the people are all gowned up - but I am sure people will decide whats being said in the room."*

He is also quoted as saying that there is one copy of the film plus the original - but *'the original-original was given to the military at the time that the incident happened.'* This seems to contradict the story of the cameraman that the footage was never returned to the Pentagon because it had processing faults. Which version is correct?

RS also tells us that the crash was in June - not July, the wreckage was cleared away then *'purely by accident a small piece of debris was found in an area that had been cleaned up'* The military had to go back and remove that - this being two weeks after the crash. Yet, didn't Brazel find three-quarters of a square mile of debris that filled a pick-up truck? Hardly 'a small piece'. And could the military be so inept that they missed so much wreckage?

The other interview was a major investigative report in *Psychic News* (15 July) which is from Jonathan Stilwell. It followed an interview with myself. In his comments RS says a great deal of interest.

The cameraman was conscripted into the Army in 1942 and RS saw *'enrolment documents, discharge papers, photo albums and his diary'* to prove his claim. Sadly nobody else has seen them, so far as I know.

As for why JB won't talk - he is afraid for his family because he has sold state secrets.

RS confirmed he finally bought the footage in December 1994 but would not say what he paid for it - only *'it was not an extraordinary amount, but a large amount - certainly more money than we had available when it was first quoted.'*

He gives the now more accepted version of how the film stock came to be retained by JB and added that Washington *'believed they had the total amount of footage with the first shipment'* - so missed the rest thanks to a bureaucratic mix-up.

He claimed that Channel 4 had found *'independent military eyewitnesses to the footage'* and this would crack the case wide open. He was confident that the screening would *'spark front page newspaper coverage around the world'*.

But in the UK the Channel 4 show proved a damp squib. The odd decision to screen it simultaneously with the first episode of series 2 of the 'X Files' on BBC (also about UFOs) must have cost them viewers and the media had by then written the footage off - so it hardly reacted at all to the documentary.

However, I gather 27 countries have so far signed up to screen the film and millions of dollars will be made as a result. ...Now where is that national lottery coupon...do you think UFOlogy qualifies for a grant like those daft museums that put cardboard boxes on display as art...is the moon made out of cheese?..... Stay tuned.

The GAO Reports

In August the GAO (General Accounting Office) in the USA finally published their results after an 18 month search for documents about the Roswell case prompted by pressure from Senator Schiff.

What did they discover? In two words - not much. The Air Force stick by their Project Mogul (secret balloon to look out for Soviet nuclear test) claim. Other intelligence files had nothing in them about Roswell.

The small report notes that the key papers - concerning the activities of the Roswell base during summer 1947 (and a two year period both before and after) were missing. Unlike the usual examples of missing files no proper explanation was traced for this disappearance but, of course, several options exist - from hiding them to cover up the 'truth' to bureaucratic bungling caused by the hiving off of the US Air Force as a separate body from within the US Army in September 1947.

The GAO also looked for references to MJ (Majestic) Twelve and found nobody who considered the classification name or famed documents valid.

There was (to quote the report) 'a message dated November 17 1980. The message, which appeared to have been originated by the Operational Division of the Air Force Office of Special Investigations (AFOSI), contained the words 'MJ Twelve'. We contacted AFOSI to determine (its) authenticity...In a letter dated February 28 1995 the Commander, AFOSI, Investigative Operations Center, advised us that a search of AFOSI files failed to disclose any official record copy of the message.' They added that they had already looked into the matter and 'concluded that the message was a forgery.'

So - its back to square one.

Informed Opinions:

Acknowledged experts have their say

As you have seen already in this issue, Stanton Friedman, one of the best known Roswell researchers, was quoted as being unconvinced. He seems to be joined by most of the other leading figures in the field.

Kent Jeffrey - of the International Roswell Initiative - and the man behind the petition (with 17,000 signatures so far) pressing the US government to tell the truth - flew to London on 5 May to see the film for himself. He was to be very disappointed.

In an excellent in depth report dated 26 May he says, unequivocally: 'there is no (zero!) doubt in my mind that this film is a fraud....I, along with others with whom I have spoken who were also at the viewing, have little doubt that the body was a doctored human corpse. If such is the case, it would make this one of the most despicable and deplorable hoaxes ever perpetrated.'

Another person whom you might consider qualified to judge is Elsie Oakensen, UFO abductee. She saw the footage in June via BUFORA and here is what she has to say.

'There was an unusual atmosphere in the room - one of expectancy - and possibly hope. We (ie she and other abductees - JR) all sat in silence watching black and white film of the autopsy of an alien supposedly from somewhere out there in space.

I really did expect to see a likeness to those 'beings' I had seen under hypnosis after my close encounter. But what lay there on the slab looked like a human being to me...

Some human bodies are born with more than the regulation 5 fingers and toes...This beings eyes reminded me of Marty Feldman's in size. Some people have big ears, some small. One little girl, recently reported in the newspapers had been born with only one.

The brain and internal organs of the body were removed, all very carefully and respectfully, and everything was weighed. I suppose I felt disappointment because of the familiar look of the body...

If it had come from outer space where the atmosphere on other planets differs from our own...why would he need all the internal organs which we need to survive?

Having supposedly met aliens 16 years ago and having always considered them to be very friendly I had hoped to learn more about them at this second meeting. But it hadn't happened...It could have been just another postmortem on an ordinary human body as often shown on TV programmes. I had no 'affinity' with that being at all - no closeness to it. All I was left with was a complete feeling of indifference.

A few weeks later an offer arrived through the post of a video of the uncut raw footage for £33 - and listing four disclaimers with regards to its veracity. I rest my case!

Perhaps most intriguing of all is a letter from Bill Moore, the man whose book (The Roswell Incident) in 1980 started off all modern research into this most famous UFO case and who possibly knows more about it than anyone. He can also comment on US government disinformation, after risking his reputation before UFOlogists in 1987 when he admitted helping the US government seed false stories into the community.

His letter appeared (dated 1 September) in the US zine Saucer Smear and urges we check medical literature on 'Turners Syndrome' - which only affects women and creates deformities very similar to those in the footage. He reports that his sources tell him that a remote village in Brazil produced quite a few such cases due to in-breeding.

Moore adds; *'The footage reportedly depicts scenes of actual autopsies performed upon two unfortunate victims around 1960. It was shot opportunistically by some B grade Sci-Fi outfit with the vague intention of somehow using it as the centerpiece of a feature film at some later date.'*

Bill claims that the company then folded and the footage has sat around ever since. He cautions; *'assuming that my information on this matter is correct, certain individuals with counterintelligence connections have been aware of this film for perhaps as long as 20 years and I am told it was once even considered for possible use as disinformation, but the idea was rejected because it was felt that the footage was just too incredible to be credible...'*

(Saucer Smear is available via PO Box 1709 Key West FL 33041 USA)

So - there you have it - pretty much all you need to know to be able to judge the big questions for yourself. Never before have I devoted so much space to one topic in this magazine and you might (very reasonably) charge me with having overdone things. Please feel free to tell me - but Roswell is the one case most UFOlogists would bet their mortgage as being so far unresolved. I felt the issues deserved to be properly addressed.

Look at the depth of questions raised.

Is this film genuine, a hoax, footage of some sick, but real, event or what?

Were BUFORA justified in handling the matter in the way that they did - or should they have foreseen the dangers of their PR?

Is money and commercialisation - via the big bucks involved in this film, or the sponsoring of UFO activities like the Sheffield conference - an invaluable boon for research or a potentially disastrous thing?

Can UFOlogy's strained reputation survive beyond the aftermath of this film?

If Bill Moore is to be believed, has someone, somewhere fed this footage to innocents such as Ray Santilli hoping that it might discredit the Roswell case by stealth? If so - what genuine secrets are they hiding?

Was its timing - amidst the rising credibility of evidence that something unexplained fell near Roswell plus awareness that the US government had lied about that fact - coincidence or is the timescale relevant?

Was someone afraid that the GAO would find chinks in the governments 48 yr old armour? *If so - what did their study miss.*

News Round Up:

:: Area 51 is a new ambient/techno group who also want to set up some sort of UFO clubbing fraternity and unite the young people of UFOlogy via skywatches, handing out fliers about the cover-up, etc. They say the old guard of the UFO world cannot cooperate with each other and so do not convince the media. If you reckon you are still young - (which you may be able to judge via actually knowing what ambient/techno music is!) then contact Richard Dent at 2A Argyle Street Cambridge CB1 3LR or call 01223 - 243760.

:: UFORA (UFO Research Australia) have decided to fold, following the death earlier this year of Vlad Godic. Apparently a new set up involving 'various individuals' and 'based on alternative methods, more relevant to the 90's' will be created instead. UFORA were a praiseworthy group and it is sad to see them go. Meantime anyone interested is urged to contact Keith Basterfield at Box 1894 Adelaide South Australia 5001

:: Albert Budden is offering more writings on his 'environmental pollution' theory. His bi-monthly research update 'The Steady Signal' is available to all at £9 per annum and 'The Complete Rowley Regis' at £17 (post inc) is the complete file on his investigation into this classic West Midlands landing and alien contact. These should be payable to Discovery Times Press St Lukes House 270 Sandycroft Rd Kew TW9 3NP

:: Thanks to Ian Radburn for news that a UFO construction kit is now available! It even has a grey and US military guard. Unfortunately this UFO won't fly, and is only 13 inches across. But you could build it and take pictures and sell try to sell them to some media source for half a million quid. It's based on the Bob Lazar Area 51 saga and the kit has full instructions and a small information sheet. The model comes from the Testor Corporation in Rockford Illinois and sells in the UK at £22.50. Ian says you can get them via Comet Miniatures 48 Lavender Hill London SW11 5RH (Tel 0171-228-3702)

:: Margaret Fry offers another goody - which she designed - a metal badge with UFO motif. She hopes we might all wear one to foster a 'united front'. It's neat and at £2.50 plus an SAE for return is a snip. Send to M. Fry c/o Frys Croft Llangernyw Clwyd LL22 8PJ

:: Have you any old copies of Northern UFO News that you dont want? Dont all rush at once! William Jones is interested in buying them for a library set up at the Ohio State University.If you can help contact:- Box 162 5837 Karris Square Drive Dublin OH 43017

:: Midnight Books have their latest catalogue out with its usual collection of excellent new and second hand bargains regarding UFOs and other paranormal topics. Send an A5 SAE or visit The Mount Ascerton Rd Sidmouth Devon EX10 9BT. Call 01395 - 515446 from 1.30 to 8 pm only on Monday to Saturday.

:: Speaking of books,I have managed to get hold of some new copies ex-warehouse of the book *Mysteries of the Mersey Valley* which Peter Hough and I wrote in 1992. It looks at strange cases near the river from Stockport through Lancashire and Cheshire to the Mersey Estuary and has many UFO tales amidst its gaggle of paranormal oddities. Tough to get hold of outside north west stores I can offer copies at a substantial discount on shop prices - £4 (post inc). Please make cheques payable to 'Jenny Randles' c/o 11 Pike Court Fleetwood Lancashire FY7 8QF. Copies of *Mind Monsters* (at £4) and *The UFO Conspiracy* (at £2.50) are also on offer (deduct £1 if you order any two together).

:: The delay to this issue meant that I was unable to tell you up front about my four part series 'Jenny Randles Secret UFO Files' (their title!) which appeared in *The Weekly News* during August and September. It covered classic UK cases in some depth. If anyone really wants this material for their collection I am happy to photocopy and send them on to you for £2.00 for the set (post inc) - cheques payable as in the book offer above.

:: I am also working on another project (as anyone who has seen me recently will know) wandering around the country with a camera shooting video of all that happens. This is for a new BBC TV series to be screened in 1996 in which four paranormal researchers capture whatever they come into contact with over a six month period. Others involved include psychic healer Matthew Manning and ghostbuster Maurice Grosse. So - if you have something about UFOs you have always felt should be seen or heard on TV - let me know and maybe I'll arrange to come and film you. You have been warned!!!

For Your Perusal: *Major articles elsewhere*

One or two new ventures to report.

Truth Seekers Review (£5.10 for 3 via Truthseekers 25 Upper Canning Street Ton-Pentre Mid Glamorgan CF41 7HG) is an interesting new A4 publication. It covers conspiracies and cover-ups, eg Roswell, area 51, Gulf Breeze, crop circles, etc. It seems to attract an intriguing range of writers which add a lively air to proceedings and at times quite a reasonable tone of authority and scepticism when due. I like the look of this different kind of mag. Worth watching, I'd say.

Intelligence (no price quoted from British UFO Studies Centre 52 Dart Walk Wharton Winsford Cheshire CW7 3JE) is the latest incarnation of UFOlogist Eric Morris - who moves about almost as much as I do. From the anti-Quest UK cartoons you get the thrust, but it's full of investigations from Cheshire and the Welsh borders and I doubt there is a more dynamic new UFO group about.

Three Shires Earth Mysteries (£1.95 from Bawdstone Press 24 Nab Hill Avenue Leek Staffs ST13 8EE) is well produced as you would expect from the well supported Green Dragon group. It covers all sorts of mysteries in Cheshire, Derbyshire & Staffordshire and has an earth mysteries flavour - whilst unafraid to tackle subjects like UFOs. It's like a north midlands Ley Hunter.

Enigmas Aug 95 £11.50 for 5 (M. Robinson)
41 The Braes Tullibody Scotland FK10 2TT
Great, as always. Bedroom visitors. A flying saucer built in Scotland. An alien turns up in Bonnybridge to talk to Billy Buchanan!

OVNI Jun & Jul 95 £12 for 12 via PRA
94 The Circle Sinfen Derby DE24 9HR
Lots of photos of summer 95 crop circles

UFOs Jun 95 £8 for 4 from UFO Network
88 Whincover Drive Leeds LS12 5JT
Press cuttings and news snips from Yorkshire

SUFORIN 2/2 £12 for 6 (inc membership)
50 Polkes Fld Stoke St Gregory Taunton TA3
Well put together mag with west country sightings, articles and news. One of the best local group publications out these days.

Pegasus £8 for 4 from SIGAP
126 Grange Rd Guildford Surrey GU2 6QP
Edited by Gordon Millington this venerable 'alien' mag reads well with interesting articles.

3rd Stone 21 £7 for 3 GEM publications
PO Box 258 Cheltenham Glos GL53 0HR
 This is a super mag - one of the best looking and wide ranging out. Lots of UFOs with Albert Budden on abductions, a look at Warminster and fault lines etc

Awareness 20/2 £9 for 4 Contact UK
11 Ouseley Close Oxford OX3 0JS
 Their founder - and House of Lords UFO buff - Lord Clancarty (who wrote books as Brinsley le Poer Trench in the 1960's) - died in May. But the group soldiers on. Quite a mixed bag from cattle mutilations in Wales to photos in Devon

Fortean Times 81/ 82 in shops or £12 for 6
Freepost SW6096, Frome Somerset BA11 1YA
 81 - Eris Andys looks into Bonnybridge 82 - JR responds ref 'wave generation', artist John Lundberg discusses the Roswell autopsy in connection with SF/horror 'snuff' movies and Loren Coleman goes behind the scenes at the X Files to see how and why the series operates

Anomaly 16 £5 for 2 via ASSAP
20 Paul Street Frome Somerset BA11 1DX
 ASSAPs investigations into fringe oddities are always good value as they have the objectivity of the SPR but a lot less rigidity forcing them to stick to traditional areas. Here we have a very interesting timeslip/abduction/earthlight (?) case and a look at mystery faces on TV sets

PSI Researcher May £7.95 for 4 via SPR
49 Marloes Rd Kensington London W8 6LA
 The SPR fight back with this much more accessible mag which reviews their activities and lectures plus other articles. Here Kevin McClure looks critically at abduction research.

Dead of Night 5 £1.50 each
156 Bolton Rd E New Ferry Wirral L62 4RY
 What a collection of stuff - from reprinted press stories on all weird things to articles on Ellesmere Port UFOs, a Bala lake monster and part 1 of an episode guide to the X Files.

IUR Apr & Jun (CUFOS) \$30 US for 6
2457 W Peterson Ave Chicago IL 60659
 Apr - a fascinating debate on the Project Mogul solution for Roswell between the scientist on the team. Kevin Randle, Mark Roedghier and others. Lost papers of Ed Ruppelt surface with new data on the famed 'estimate of situation' report Jun - Brazels daughter tells her stiey about the Roswell crash and a fascinating Florida CE 3 landing with traces, footprints and alien message

Just Cause Mar \$20n US for 4
CAUS Box 176 Stoneham MA 02180 USA
 Sereious commentary on the US cover-up. Here the recent USAF 'it was a Mogel balloon' report on Roswell is intensively studied.

Ohio UFO Notenbook 10 \$20 US for 1 year
MORA 5837 Karrie Sq Dr Dublin OH 43017
 A good regional US mag with some interesting case investigations and articles - eg were the Roswell aliens crash test dummies?

BOOKS OF THE MOMENT

The Anomalist 2 has appeared and maintains the very high standard of last years first edition. More a book than a magazine the 150 page compilation edited by Patrick Huyghe and Dennis Stacy is a perfect present to treat yourself. With contributors including Loren Coleman, Hilary Evans, Rupert Sheldrake and Dennis Stillings and topics such as the face on mars, bigfoot, animal mutilations and UFO mythology assessed in an intelligent, informed, cautious but not debunking style this is quality stuff. The main article is by Robert Baker and assesses CE4s in the light of sleep disorder phenomena. Even the cover picture is a fascinating story. Don't miss this exciting venture whatever you do. \$15 US (post inc) via Dennis Stacy PO Box 12434 San Antonio TX 78212 USA.

If you did not get to Sheffield (or did and couldnt understand some of the lectures) then the proceedings may be just for you. Titled **UFOs: Examining the Evidence** they are a bit annoying in maintaining the 'War of the Worlds' CD plug even on the cover and - much as I like his music - do we really need a two page profile telling us about the collected TV jingles of Jeff Wayne (!). Still - as a 56 page glossy booklet - it gives the text of the major lectures (from numerous European countries plus Africa and the USA) in compensation. Well illustrated with some facts and figures, too, its the best proceedings yet put together on a UK conference and its worth £5 from BUFORA at 2c Leyton Rd Harpenden Herts AL5 2TL. Compiled by Mike Wootten and Marion Sunderland - an intriguing team.

UFOs: Psychic Close Encounters
Albert Budden, 1995 256pp with photos & line drawings at £9.99 from Blandford Press

The long awaited book on Alberts 'environmental pollution' theory is here, so you can judge his unusual concept for yourself.

In many senses, of course, it is not a 'new' theory but a synthesis of ideas from Devereux (earthlights), Persinger (transients) and shares elements in common with my own 'Mind Monsters'. But Albert has gone much further, relating all this to scientific research into the effects on the human brain caused by the sea of electromagnetic radiation which bathes us all unseen in the late 20th century.

He asks - can this create glowing masses (UFOs) and trigger brain wave changes as an altered state of consciousness thus precipitating vivid hallucinations (close encounters)? Physical symptoms would be expected since these are found in the study of people living near powerlines or microwave transmitter towers, for example. This is a trailblazing field that Albert is continuing via his magazine 'The steady signal' (see p.11).

He is not alone in suspecting this may lead towards answers. A few of us have noted numerous clues which link UFOs to subjects like crop circles and SHC. There is a chapter (Fields of Force) in the section 'The Supernatural Earth' within 'The Encyclopedia of the Unexplained' (see below). It was penned in 1993 and so as independent of Albert's work as his research is of mine. When you recall the BBC-2 'Horizon' feature by Sue Blackmore reaching similar conclusions (again independently) and realise how these ideas stem from decades of work by Devereux and others you sense a truth might be emerging.

That said, this book instilled a few doubts on my part. I am not convinced by his interpretation of the Blackpool pier case (p.138 - 141), but then he seems to have known only half that story, unfortunately.

As and when Albert reads more widely in the UFO literature than he seems to have done to date I expect his work to grow. He already shows signs of building an important bridge between avant garde mainstream science and the data that shines out of many UFO cases but is so often missed.

I would not count on too much just yet, but this is a thought provoking book and one that all serious researchers owe it to themselves to go out and read, whatever they actually believe to be behind the UFO riddle.

A few notes on my own output. UFO Retrievals was published in June by Blandford at £8.95 and reviews the 33 known crash retrieval cases. It quickly sold out but has now been reprinted. In August Michael O'Mara published (after a 2 year delay) The Encyclopedia of the Unexplained by Peter

Hough and myself. At £15.99 it's a large hardback with lots of pictures (some in colour). We were asked to write this book and because so many 'encyclopedias' were already on sale insisted on making it a series of themed essays linking subjects together. We hope it is more than just a potboiler as a result. Finally, in September, Piatkus published (at about £11) The Strange but true casebook - which is my book based on the cases in series two (running from early September to mid November on the ITV network). Strange but true? (which Peter Hough co-authored) was the book of the 1994 series and is reprinted for those who did not even know there was a book last time around (because ITV rules forbid its advertising - unlike Channel 4 and the BBC). You'll be pleased to hear that no more books of mine are due to be published for a while!

MORE WELSH WONDERS

Investigations by Margaret Fry

Chester Moon... In case 9435 a couple were driving near Tarporley, Cheshire, on 3 January 1994 at 23.30 and spotted a golden oval spread out above Beeston Castle. The next moment it was hovering above a hedgerow. Convinced it was the moon, they scanned the skies only to find this was overhead. But the UFO was still there, now seeming to follow the car as they moved.

The silent copter is case 9436 at 18.00 on 26 January 1994 in Ruabon, Clwyd. Mrs B and two teenagers (one her son) spotted a light hovering over trees. It then passed overhead, very low down, and it was shaped like a helicopter but utterly silent. As it travelled above them it suddenly changed shape to become like a diamond with a hollow centre and lights at each apex. It then circled back over the house and disappeared in the direction from which it first arrived.



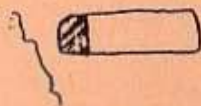
Case 9435



Case 9436

Circle in the sky features Case 9437 at 01.00 one night in late January 1994. Two musicians were at the A55 Dobshill turnoff in Cheshire when they saw a white circle in the sky with an orange halo around it. It drifted towards Chester, intensified in brightness and then vanished. Could this be a laser display?

Beach comber concerns case 9438 at 15.00 on 3 February 1994. A nursing sister, Mrs R, was on a day trip to Llandudno, Gwynedd, with her husband. It was



Case 9438

a lovely day and she spotted a strange object over the beach. It was just out over the sea and was like a rectangle with slightly rounded edges. One end was dark and the other a silvery white. She watched in amazement as it flew across the sky and was so stunned it took a while to nudge her husband and point it out. He only saw the last few moments as it disappeared into low cloud near the Little Orme - a local limestone cliff.

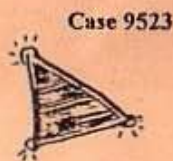
BRIEF CASES

9522 3 January 1995 Lea, Herefordshire

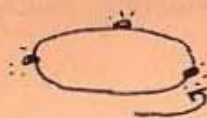
Two people in a car were driving from Gloucester to Ross on Wye at 20.00 when they saw 'an orange light with what appeared to be a cone behind it'. This object travelled parallel with them as they left the village of Lea. They slowed down but there was no sound as it moved away from right to left.

9523 18 January 1995 Mickleover, Derbys

Mrs C was shocked to observe a strange object as she drove through town this evening. Her son in law was with her and they both saw a gigantic triangle with a dark middle and three lights (one green, two red) - placed on each of the apex points. Yet another Pennine triangle.



Case 9523



Case 9524

9524 18 January 1995 Nelson, Lancashire

Presumably somehow related with the above is this simultaneous case at 20.00 from a 14 year old who saw the object over the Marsden Park golf course beside his home. It was watched for an hour through his window as 'an oval shape with red and green lights...it was still but seemed to be turning slowly.' It vanished into the sky. Several aircraft passed by and were very obviously different. Manchester Airport had no explanation to offer.

If these two events refer to the same object was there some astronomical phenomenon that could give rise to such an illusion? The long duration implies that. The 'Network First' UFO programme was seen the day before!

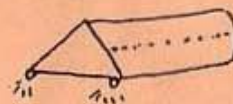
9525 1 March 1995 Brailsford, Derbyshire

Yet another encounter from this Peak county - an illuminated object near the A52 which apparently stopped a line of cars as the occupants watched the thing drift by.

9526 11 Mar 1995 Ellesmere Port, Cheshire

This is an intriguing case seen by several townsfolk on the Wirral. Mrs A and her three children were returning to Little Sutton at 19.00 after a town centre visit. She stopped her car outside a shop when a very loud buzzing noise was heard. Looking upwards they all saw flashing lights that surrounded a curious craft. It was very large and the shape

Case 9526



Case 9527

was triangular at the front but rectangular at the rear. There were two red lights at the side and a row of white lights along the middle. It was seen for two minutes and dismissed as far too big and loud for an aircraft or helicopter. Local UFOlogist David Williams was quoted as calling it a major sighting. Aircraft do cross the area landing at Speke and are certainly low (as I recall from my time living on the Wirral when one nearly knocked Paul and I off his motorbike at Little Sutton). An airship of some sort is another option that springs to mind. On the other hand there are interesting similarities here with famous unexplained cases like the Shell Oil Refinery encounter at Carrington in November 1977 (see *Mysteries of the Mersey Valley*).

9527 22 March 1995 Uttoxeter, Staffs

Potentially this is an interesting case and I hope some investigator is following it up - hence I give names as in the *Burton Mail*. At 06.30 13 year old Letitia Murphy alerted her mother Elaine (of Mowbray, Church Leigh, Uttoxeter) to a strange craft that was

crossing the face of the moon. It was rounded with a dome on top and had bright windows around the middle. It then suddenly disappeared leaving a huge cloud of smoke in its wake. Police were called, who promised to investigate and Letitia was so upset she refused to go to bed the following night. If anyone learns more on this case, let us know.

9528 22 March 1995 Ballymena, N. Ireland

14 hours after the above a series of encounters occurred in the Ballymena and Glengormley area. Again the police (here the RUC) were called in. Various witnesses described an oval shaped dish about 40 feet in diameter which had 50 flickering lights associated. It hovered over Ballymena for some time before disappearing. A farmer at Kells watched it hover low over his yard for some minutes. No solution has been reported for this as yet.

STOP THE PRESS

Robin Lindsey wants to inform readers of a fantastic service. He has recorded UFO lectures for decades and has audio tapes dating back to 1958 (George Adamski in London!) and video of many UK and US conferences since 1992. Amidst this wonderful collection are all the star names of UFOlogy - such as Allen Hynck, Jacques Vallee etc. There is coverage of classic cases - from Warminster debates as the affair unfolds, to ten years of the Rendlesham Forest case told in a series of presentations from 1983 to 1993. It is an Aladins cave for all UFOlogists, young or old.

Moreover he is not charging exorbitant prices. On average you pay £4.50 for a 2 - 3 hour lecture on audio and £6 - £7 (all post inc) for a 3 - 4 hour video collection (usually of two lectures). Your best bet is to send a 50 p coin to Robin and he will print out his 24 page list of these hundreds of landmark presentations. Then you can order whatever takes your fancy.

New lectures are always being added to the list (except for the recent Sheffield conference where he was shamefully banned). Most of the one off lectures are the BUFORA London meetings - but all BUFORA conferences for 20 odd years are covered too - as are several other UK events (eg from the IUN, South Wales group, NARO, etc) and quite a few recent video goodies filmed in the USA.

Contact 87 Station Road Whittlesey Peterborough PE7 1UE Tel:- 01733 - 203414.

SUBSCRIPTIONS SUBSCRIPTIONS

Most of you have renewed - but if you are still not paid up it will be indicated here. This will then (sadly) be the last issue I can send until you do....sorry

You owe for issues to no:

AUTUMN ATTRACTIONS

Lots of upcoming events to report. On 4 & 5 November 1995 this years Psychic Questing conference is held at the *Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, London*. Organised by Andy Collins as usual. Many lectures. Michael Bentine is special guest. £12 for the weekend via Box 189 Leigh on Sea Essex SS9 1NF

On Tuesday 14 November 1995 the *Burnley Mechanics Theatre, Manchester Road, Burnley* stage a UFO evening. Graham Birdsall (of Quest) will discuss major British cases and Jenny Randles crash retrievals. Tier and stall seats available at £4.50 and £5.50 via the Burnley box office on 01282-30055.

Finally, the unlikely setting of *Wilsden Green Library 95 High Road, London NW 10 2QY* is host to a month long season - 'At the edge of science'. Lined up are Ian Wilson (Reincarnation) on 2 Nov, Prof Chandra Wickramasinghe (life is seeded from outer space) on 23 Nov, Jenny Randles (Alien contact - from mind, space or time?) on 27 Nov and David Percy (the face on mars) on 30 Nov. Lectures start 8.30 pm. Colin Wilson may also take part. All lectures are FREE - so book tickets early via Anne Mullane at the library: Tel: 0181-937-3485 or Fax 0181-937-3401

Local groups in the north

Scotland

SPI 41 The Braes Tullibody Scotland FK10 2TT

SRUFO 129 Langton Vw East Calder EH13 0RE

SEMR 35 Fountain Rd Bridge of Allan FK9 4AU

North East

NUFORI 14 Longhirst Drive Newcastle NE13 6JW

CONNECT 5 Stocks Hill Menston Ilkley LS29 6ND

North West

NLUFOIG 89 Bare Lane Morecambe LA4 6RN

LAPIS 293 Devonshire Rd Blackpool FY2 0TW

NARO * 2 Grosvenor Rd Congleton CW12 4PG

(*NUFOR files with NARO- for access call 01942-604265)

North Midlands

PRA 94 The Circle Sinfon Derby DE24 9HR

GREEN DRAGON 24 Nab Hill Dr Leek ST13 8EE

EMUFORA 8 Roosa Close Nottingham NG6 7BL

South Midlands

PARASRCH 79 Sandringham Rd Stourbridge DY8 5HL

HURG 20 Ryelands Street Hereford HR4 0LB

Wales

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